

WE CLAIM:

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1. An enteral composition comprising:
a protein source consisting of hydrolyzed whey protein;
a carbohydrate source; and
5 a lipid source including a mixture of medium and long chain triglycerides, the
enteral composition having a caloric density of at least 1.4 kcal/mL, wherein the
composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least 90:1.

2. The enteral composition of Claim 1 wherein the lipid source comprises
10 approximately 20% to 50% of the calorie distribution of the composition.

3. The enteral composition of Claim 1 including 100% of U.S. RDA of
vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.

4. The enteral composition of Claim 1 wherein the protein source
15 comprises approximately 15% to about 20% of the calorie distribution of the
composition.

5. The enteral composition of Claim 1 wherein the composition includes
20 per 1500 kcal of composition:

a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;
a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;
a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;
a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and
25 a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg.

6. The enteral composition of Claim 1 further including a source of beta-

carotene.

7. A method for providing nutrition to a metabolically stressed patient comprising the step of administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising:

a protein source comprising approximately 15% to about 20% of the calorie distribution of the composition, the protein source consisting of ^{why} hydrolyzed protein;

a carbohydrate source;

a lipid source ;

the enteral composition having a caloric density of at least 1.4 kcal/mL; and

the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least approximately 90:1.

8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the lipid source comprises approximately 20% to 50% of the calorie distribution of the composition.

9. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition includes 100% of U.S. RDA of vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.

10. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition is fed through a tube to the patient.

11. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition contains approximately 0.37% of the calories as cysteine.

12. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:

a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;
a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;
a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;
a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and
5 a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg.

13. The method of Claim 7 wherein the composition further includes a source of beta- carotene.

10 14. ~~An enteral composition for a metabolically stressed patient comprising:
about 15% to about 20% of the calorie distribution of the composition
consisting essentially of hydrolyzed whey protein;~~

~~a carbohydrate source comprising at least 35% of the composition;
a lipid source comprising at least 20 by weight of the composition; and
15 the composition having a caloric density of at least 1.4 kcal/mL and a ratio of
non-protein calories per gram of nitrogen of at least about 90:1.~~

15. The enteral composition of Claim 14 which includes, per 1500 kcal:
a zinc source providing from about 28.5 to about 43.5 mg zinc;
20 a vitamin C source providing about 405 to 615 mg vitamin C;
a selenium source providing about 60 to about 90 mg selenium;
a taurine source providing about 120 to about 180 mg taurine; and
a L-carnitine source providing about 120 to about 180 mg L-carnitine.

25 16. The enteral composition of Claim 14 which has a caloric density of about 1.4 to about 1.8 kcal/mL.

17. The enteral composition of Claim 14 wherein the composition further

comprises from about 0.1% to 2.0% free amino acids.

18. The enteral composition of Claim 14 including at least 0.1% free amino acid.

5 19. A method for providing nutrition to a metabolically stressed patient comprising the step of administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising:

10 a protein source comprising approximately 15% to about 20% of the calorie distribution of the composition, the protein source consisting essentially of hydrolyzed whey protein;

a carbohydrate source;

a lipid source ;

the enteral composition having a caloric density of at least 1.4 kcal/mL; and

15 the composition provides a ratio of non-protein calories per gram nitrogen of at least approximately 90:1.

20 20. The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition includes 100% of U.S. RDA of vitamins and minerals in approximately 1500 kcal.

21. The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition includes per 1500 kcal of composition:

a zinc source providing from approximately 28.5 to 43.5 mg;

a vitamin C source providing from approximately 405 to 615 mg;

25 a selenium source providing from approximately 60 to 90 mg;

a taurine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg;

a L-carnitine source providing from approximately 120 to 180 mg; and

a source of beta- carotene.

22. The method of Claim 19 wherein the composition further comprises at least 0.1% free amino acids.

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